

POTTSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Directors  
Board Meeting  
April 17, 2024  
DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium  
7:00 PM

Present: Mr. Ansbach, Mr. Ciavarella,  
Mrs. Hobbs, Mr. Shields, Mrs. Dewitt,  
Mr. Thomas, Mr. Urban, Mrs. Buchanan  
Ms. Wytovich, Dr. Yoder, Superintendent;  
Mrs. Lombel, Asst. Business Manager/ Board  
Secretary; Mrs. Bevan, Asst. Business Manager;  
Ms. Paige Gross, Attorney at Law; Madison  
Eroh, Junior Board Member  
Hunter Chescavage, Junior Board Member

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The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM by President Lynda Wytovich .

President Wytovich - Board Statement

A reminder to the public that the public comment period is not a question-and-answer period, but rather the opportunity for the public to submit comments to the Board. If members of the public wish to make public comments, then they must do so in person. Public comments will follow School Board Policy 903 and public comment procedures. Members of the public who are residents and/or taxpayers of the school district who wish to comment shall identify themselves by indicating name, address, and topic upon which they want to address. If the subject matter is on the agenda, such persons shall be given priority over residents and/or taxpayers who want to comment on non-agenda items. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes. The public comment segment of each Board meeting shall be a maximum of one (1) hour per public meeting. Anyone who does not get the opportunity to speak because of the expiration of this one (1) hour time period shall be afforded a priority speaking position at the next public Board meeting. After the School Board agenda is posted online, questions may be emailed to [plombel@pottsville.k12.pa.us](mailto:plombel@pottsville.k12.pa.us) by 2:00 PM the day of the meeting. Questions will be forwarded to all Board members. The meeting will be available online.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - There were no public comments.

Roll Call – 9 members present, 0 absent

2024 – 2025 Budget Presentation was given by Business Manager Stacy Stair. There were no questions.

On motion of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Mrs. Hobbs** the Board dispensed with the reading of the minutes of the March 13, 2024 Committee of the Whole Minutes, and the

March 20, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes since all members received copies, and there being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved. Motion carried.

On the recommendation of **Mrs. Stair**, Business Manager and on motion of **Mr. Ansbach**, seconded by **Mr. Urban**, the Board approved the following Financial Reports for the month of March 2024:

1. Treasurer's Report (All Funds) - General Fund Balance as of March 31, 2024 - \$1,673,036.87 Cafeteria Checking Balance as of March 31, 2024 - \$455,176.50
2. General Fund Condensed Board Summary Revenue Report
3. General Fund Condensed Board Summary Expenditure Report
4. Cafeteria Condensed Board Summary Report
5. Payment Summary - General Fund, Food Service
6. Budget Transfers

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Mrs. Buchanan**, the Board approved the following professional employee(s) be reimbursed as indicated for the successful completion of pre-approved credit courses in accordance with the negotiated agreement between the PASD and PASDEA:

Detrick Borden - 6 Credits

Jill Chiccini - 3 Credits

Emily Earlley - 3 Credits

Paula Heffner - 3 Credits

Brent Hinkle - 6 Credits

Lisa Holobetz - 6 Credits

William Rhoads - 3 Credits

Amy Withelder - 3 Credits

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, and on motion of **Mrs. Buchanan** seconded by **Mr. Urban**, the Board approved the following items:

- salary adjustments to be made effective for the 2024 - 2025 school year:

Kara Ryan - Master's Degree + 15

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the **Athletics and Extracurricular Activities Committee**, and on motion of **Mr. Shields**, seconded by **Mr. Ansbach**, the Board approved the following:

1. the Extended Season Pay for the following 2023- 2024 Winter Coaches per the PASDEA contract: Boys' Basketball, Swimming and Wrestling Coaches.
2. the new Football Coaches for the 2024 - 2025 Season: Ian Renninger - Varsity Assistant Coach - \$2800 Marty Palm - Varsity Assistant - Volunteer
3. Returning football coach Mark Laubenstine - Junior High Head Coach for the 2024 - 2025 Season as per contract.
4. Joe Bickelman as Varsity Assistant Track & Field Coach for the 2023 - 2024 Season, effective March 4, 2024.
5. Resignation of Neil Johnson as High School Dive Coach and ASL Swim Coach, retroactive to March 22, 2024.
6. Kelsey Hoffman as a Volunteer Swim Coach for High School Swimming and Diving, effective March 4, 2024, and Anthracite Swim League for the 2024 - 2025 Season.
7. Resignation of the following wrestling coaches retroactive to March 22, 2024: Gary Keener, Sam Julian, Ryan Green

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the **Finance Committee**, and on motion of **Mr. Ciavarella**, seconded by **Mr. Urban**, the Board approved the following:

1. The transfer of \$1,000,000 from the PSDLAF Max Account to the General Fund Operating Account at Mid Penn Bank for cash flow purposes. Retroactive to date of movement April 2, 2024.
2. The agreement with Solient Health LLC for contracted OT services retroactive to April 5, 2024.
3. The Provider Agreement with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation retroactive to March 20, 2024.
4. The re-investment of the following amounts into PSDLAF US Treasury Security Investment (T-Bills) retroactive to April 11, 2024:  
  
\$1,000,000 for 6 months at 5.20% - maturity date October 3, 2024  
\$500,000 for 9 months at 5.00% - maturity date December 26, 2024  
\$500,000 for 11 months at 5.05% - maturity date February 20, 2025  
\$500,000 for 12 months at 5.01% - maturity date March 20, 2025
5. The advertisement for an RFP for the Sports Medicine and Healthcare Agreement. Our current agreement with St. Luke's expires on June 30, 2024.

6. The Committee on Finance recommends adoption of the proposed final 2024-2025 School District budget of \$49,153,309. The Committee reports that this budget reflects personnel, instructional equipment, supplies, maintenance and operational expenditures necessary for educating students.

7. Authorize the School Board Secretary to have the required proposed final budget notice published once in the Republican Herald on Friday April 19, 2024.

8. Set the date of May 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for the Final Adoption of the 2024-2025 budget for the Pottsville Area School District.

7 aye, 2 nay - Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the **Personnel Committee**, on motion of **Mrs. Dewitt**, seconded by **Mr. Urban**, the Board approved the following:

1. The extension of Garrett Lineaweaver's internship to August 31, 2024. Mr. Lineaweaver is currently a Penn State Schuylkill Student.

2. John Rose as Van Driver at an hourly rate of \$13.50 retroactive to April 4, 2024.

3. The letter of resignation from Angel (Geiger) Honus as full-time Paraprofessional effective March 18, 2024.

4. The letter of resignation for retirement purposes from the following employees with effective dates:

~ Mrs. Eleanor Aschman, Special Education Supervisor at Pottsville Area High School for 11 years, effective August 2, 2024

~ Mrs. Danita Sippel, School Nurse at DHH Lengel Middle School for 31 years, effective the last day of the 2023-2024 school year

We are grateful for their dedication and commitment to the students, families and community and wish them well in retirement.

5. The following employees' requests for Leave without Pay as per School Board Policy(s) #334, #434, and #534:

Employee #114 - Aide - April 22, 2024 through May 3, 2024

Employee #1318 - Paraprofessional - March 6, 7, 8, 18, 25, 26, 27 and April 4, 2024;

Employee #1493 - Paraprofessional - April 5, 2024 and April 8, 2024 Employee #1493 - Paraprofessional - April 19, 2024

6. The following teachers to plan and/or teach for the Pottsville Area High School Summer Tutoring Program/Summer School, at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA.

Mike Brennan  
Suzanne Fredericks  
Alisa Hobbs  
Steve Horvath

Tracy James  
Meredith Pellish

Dave Sterner

7. The following summer employees for bus garage and vehicle cleaning at an hourly rate of \$12.50:

Joseph Bentz Becky Berger Carol Buchinski Bob Dusel  
Amber Eaddy Erika Fontanez Bill Martin  
Jayne McKeown Melissa Petrozino Karen Reader Dorothy Vaughan Tori Wallace

8. The following summer employees for ESY, Summer School, and Schuylkill ACHIEVE at their normal hourly rate:

Joseph Bentz - van driver  
Ron Brennan - van driver  
Bob Dusel - bus/van driver Amber Eaddy - van driver  
Erika Fontanez - van driver  
Bill Martin - bus/van driver  
Jayne McKeown - bus/van driver Melissa Petrozino - bus/van driver Natalie Setlock - van aide Dorothy Vaughan - van driver Tori Wallace - bus/van driver

9. The following for the Extended School Year Program (ESY) at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the PASD and PASDEA:

Teachers:

John Guzick Megan Sirkot

Speech Therapists: Kiera VanHorn Olivia Eagan

Certified Counselor: Jennifer Brant

Paraprofessionals: Naimi Vigoda Emilee Rose Kaliegh Sibbett

10. It is recommended that the Board approve Carly Mohl as a per diem Paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$14.00 - start date TBD.

11. It is recommended that the Board approve Emily Moyer as a permanent part-time JSC Elementary Cafeteria Aide at an hourly rate of \$10.25 - start date TBD.

12. It is recommended that the Board approve Tara Hess for Homebound Instruction at an hourly rate of \$35.00 as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement between PASD and PASDEA.

13. It is recommended that the Board approve Haley Pappacena as an after-school tutor at JSC Elementary Center for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.

14. It is recommended that the Board approve permission to advertise for a Full-Time Director of Athletics and Student Activities.

15. It is recommended that the Board approve permission to advertise for a Full-Time Business Teacher.

16. It is recommended that the Board approve Erin Collins as Full-Time Cafeteria Dishwasher/Receiver/Custodial position at her current hourly rate. She is currently a Full-Time Custodian.

Motion carried.

**Mrs. Buchanan** read the following informational items:

Congratulations to PAHS Artist of the Month, Andy Tucker.

Congratulations to PAHS Rotary Students of the Month, Kali Hinkle and Alaina Bartashus.

Congratulations to the PAHS cast and crew of The Little Mermaid for wonderful performances on March 22-24, 2024.

Congratulations to DHHL Middle School Students, 8<sup>th</sup> grader Padraic Kerns and 7<sup>th</sup> grader Najlaa Belkhouthout, on earning spots in the statewide MathCounts competition. The students were among 147 mathletes that competed. They traveled to Harrisburg on March 23<sup>rd</sup> with Coach Carolyn Wasilewski.

Congratulations to JSC Elementary Center Students of the Month:

K - Isaiah Fleming 1 - Anika Holmes

2 - Victor Williams 3 - Adyson Snowell 4 - Charlotte Welsh

Congratulations to the DHH Lengel Middle School Tide-Tek team for winning the Best Videography award with Cardinal Systems! Adam Donya, Mason Fanelli, Eli Jones, Padraic Kerns, Camila Leonardo, Evan Matz, Austin Nevodomsky, June Newberry, Reed Novitsky, and Ethan Reed with their teacher coaches Mr. Jonathan Hughes, Mr. Jeff Hughes, Mr. Narita, and Mr. Selinko won the award competing against Berks and Schuylkill County schools!

On the recommendation of the Technology Committee, and on motion of **Mr. Urban**, seconded by **Ms. Hobbs**, the Board approved the following:

~Haley Seedor (new intern) with a tentative start day of May 7, 2024 - \$11.00 per hour, to increase to \$12 per hour for the 2024 - 2025 school year.

~Arianna Perez (current intern) extend approval through 2024-2025 school year - \$12.00 per hour.

~Justin Herb (current intern) extend approval through 2024-2025 school year dependent upon funding through the PSU Schuylkill Co-Op Program.

**Mr. Urban** thanked Penn State Schuylkill for the partnership.

~Participation in the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program. This new funding will provide the following access to services at no cost to the District:

Continuation of the network Intrusion Detection Sensor (ALBERT) we received from FY2022, access to a Vulnerability Management Solution by Tenable, and access to a Security Incident and Event Management (SEIM) Solution by Splunk.

On the recommendation of the **Curriculum Committee**, and on motion of **Mrs. Buchanan**, seconded by **Mr. Ansbach**, the Board approved the following:

1. PAHS Teacher, Mr. Stephen Horvath, to attend the Crossflight Sky Solutions Conference in Bluffton, South Carolina; June 10-14, 2024. The conference is paid for by ARP ESSER Funds. The total amount for the conference is \$3,131.00.
2. The Induction Plan for new teachers that was approved by the IU induction Council and Intermediate Board.
3. The K-12 Guidance Plan for the 2024-2027 Cycle.

Motion carried.

On the recommendation of the **Policy and Procedure Committee**, and on motion of **Mr. Thomas**, seconded by **Mr. Ansbach**, the Board approved the following policies:

Employees

326 - Complaint Process

328 - Compensation Plans/Salary Schedules 330 - Overtime

331 - Job Related Expenses

332 - Working Periods

333 - Professional Development

334 - Sick Leave

903 - Community - Public Participation in Board Meetings

**2. It is recommended by the Policy and Procedure Committee that the Board retire the following policies:**

Administrative Employees 327 - Management Team

Professional Employees 426 - Complaints Process 428 - Salary Determination 431 - Job Related Expenses 432 - Working Periods  
433 - Professional Develop 434 - Sick Leave

Support Employees

526 - Complaint Process 528 - Salary Determination 530 - Overtime  
531 - Job Related Expenses 532 - Working Periods  
534 - Sick Leave

Motion carried.

**Informational:**

**Mr. Ciavarella** said the St. Clair Committee met on April 11, 2024 for informational purposes.

Under New Business Junior Board Member **Hunter Chescavage** announced the following upcoming events:

April 18, 2024 - JSC Title I Bingo Night

April 22-26, 2024 - PSSA ELA Testing

April 29-May 3, 2024 - PSSA Math, Science & Make-ups

May 4, 2024 - PAHS Senior Prom

May 7, 2024 - Spartan Games

May 7, 2024 - Teacher Appreciation Day

May 9, 2024 - PAHS Spring Band Concert

May 10, 2024 - MiniThon Main Event

May 14, 2024 - PAHS Spring Choir Concert

May 15, 2024 - PAHS History Night

May 16, 2024 - DHHL Middle School Band and Choir Concert  
May 17, 2024 - PASD Art Show

May 17, 2024 - JSC Basket Raffle

On the recommendation of **Mrs. Bevan**, Board Secretary, on motion of **Mr. Thomas**, seconded by **Mr. Urban**, the Board approved the following:

**Martz Hall/Practice Field/DHH Lengel**

Genesis Drum Corps International Competition Rehearsal  
8/1/2024 1:00am Arrival 8/3/2024 4:00pm Departure

**MS Parking Lots Rear/Top**



Safety Night Out  
Pottsville Fire Department  
6/17/2024 4:30pm-8:00pm  
6/18/2024 4:30pm-8:00pm (Rain Date)

**MS Parking Lots Rear/Top**

Fire Convention  
Pottsville Fire Department 5/11/2024

**Meetings for May 2024**

Committee of the Whole Meeting - Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the Academic Center

Board Meeting - Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the DHH Lengel Middle School Auditorium - Final Budget to be approved

An Executive Session was held from 6:31 PM to 7:02 to discuss personnel matters.

There being no further business, on motion of **Mr. Thomas**, seconded by **Mr. Dewitt**, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM

 April 19, 2024

Krista M. Bevan (Date)

Board Secretary